

truth in sentencing section, the paragraph that he describes, he talks about...he talks about it in general terms, but he doesn't focus in specifically on these particular issues. And my belief is that probably what happened is that maybe because of the other issues that were involved in the bill, maybe they didn't think the bill was going to go anywhere, I don't know what it was, but these particular issues, this section that was stricken from the back section of the bill wasn't addressed in his remarks. And probably as a result it probably didn't get focused on by the committee. The bill was pretty well gutted by the committee at that time, and that's basically been the problem with a lot of these crime bills that come before the body, at least the major ones. We talk about other issues, we talk about personalities that bring the bills into the body, but we don't focus in on the specifics of the bill, and that's probably been one of my...I haven't appreciated the process that's taken place with these crime bills. On the bill that we have, 1351, here we had I don't know how many different sections, it was chopped up in a number of sections, and we focused in on two of the sections for eight hours, and I guess that's fine, that's the prerogative of the body, but you don't get a thorough discussion of the piece of legislation by doing it that way in that manner. But anyway, I think that's probably what happened. Initially, it just wasn't examined when they were seeking to repeal it. And I don't know who's fault that was, but that didn't happen...

SENATOR MOORE: One minute.

SENATOR ABBODD: ...that didn't happen at the committee process, and then sections of the language were taken out. Quite frankly, I was baffled that Senator Pirsch's truth in sentencing bill was initially advanced anyway. When we had the bills last year the argument that was raised was that...against the crime bill of 1993 was that this was an accumulation of other senators bills, and this was nothing new, so as a result of that let's just send these other senators bills out and let's not deal with the crime package. And, again, I think it involved personalities, and I think because the focus was on the personalities and not on the issues, it probably slipped by people that were opposed to it. Now, I don't know whose fault that is, but it's probably something to take notice of in the future. You're voting on major pieces of legislation here, and you use any means within your power to stop a piece of legislation, that's understandable and I have no problems with